

**Christmas Day
December 25, 2022**

GATHERING MUSIC

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
Linda Vollweiler, Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

Lewis H. Render
arr. Timothy Brown

WELCOME

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

*OPENING HYMN

“Love Has Come”

110

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas, indeed!

For Hope is born this day.

And Peace arrives once more.

Let Love be declared again and again.

Let Joy be found even in the most unexpected places.

As we gather this morning, let us be filled with the knowledge of God.

Let us encounter again Emmanuel, God With Us.

*HYMN

“Candles Glowing, Promise Showing”

(To the tune of “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” written by Rev. Elana Keppel Levy)

Candles glowing, promise showing Jesus born a baby small.

Hosts rejoicing, shepherds voicing – praising Christ the Lord of all.

God is with us, shout hosanna, raise a chorus, singing ever:

Praising Christ the Lord of all! Praising Christ the Lord of all!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we almost missed it. Amid the cooking, amid the shopping, amid the frivolity and festivities we almost walked right past this little manger. We very nearly overlooked this small family, this fragile child. Forgive us for the times we get stuck within ourselves. Help us to notice the world of hope beyond our own lives. Free us to join in your holy presence again and again. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God gives us neither what we have earned nor what we deserve.

God grants us mercy and forgiveness.

Though we often sin, God renews our hearts with love.

Praise be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
(verse 3)

119

*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you)

CHRISTMAS FEAST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Incline our ears to you, O God. Draw our hearts close to your wisdom. Let your nurture and challenge be revealed to us in your Word this day. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 2:8-20

HYMN

“The First Nowell”

147

MESSAGE

Do Sheep Move with Haste?

*SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

John Francis Wade
arr. Philip Keveren

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that Jesus, _____ *(fill in the blank).*

We believe that God, _____ *(fill in the blank).*

We believe that the Holy Spirit _____ *(fill in the blank).*

Inspired by Mary we will _____ *(fill in the blank).*

Inspired by Joseph we will _____ *(fill in the blank).*

Inspired by the shepherds we will _____ *(fill in the blank).*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN

“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”

138

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn-Bartholdi
arr. Philip Keveren

(*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Love Has Come 110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

MENDELSSOHN
 7.7.7.7.D with refrain

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
 east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" (*natus / né*) as well to "news" (*nova / nouvelle*).

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord
 full reverently upon their knee, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 and offered there in his presence that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. and with his blood our life hath bought.
Refrain

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

138 Who Would Think That What Was Needed

1 Who would think that what was need - ed to trans -
 2 Shep - herds watch and wise men won - der; mon - archs
 3 Cen - tu - ries of skill and sci - ence span the

form and save the earth might not be a
 scorn and an - gels sing; such a place as
 past from which we move, yet ex - pe - rience

plan or ar - my, proud in pur - pose, proved in
 none would reck - on hosts a ho - ly help - less
 ques - tions wheth - er, with such prog - ress, we im -

worth? Who would think, de - spite de - ri - sion, that a
 thing. Sta - ble beasts and by - passed strang - ers watch a
 prove. While the hu - man lot we pon - der, lest our

Hindsight is nearly always clearer than foresight, and with gentle good humor this Christmas hymn points out how great was the gap between human expectation and God's actual way of providing a means of salvation for us. God's ways continually exceed our claims to comprehend them.

child should lead the way?
 ba - by laid in hay; God sur - pris - es earth with
 hopes and hu - mor fray,

heav - en, com - ing here on Christ - mas Day.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

December 25, 2022


Ushers: (Team #4) Captain George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Julie Thomsen.

Greeters: Carolyn & Rich McKenzie; Cathy & John Pershing


JANUARY Greeters

JANUARY	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
1	Erica & Brent Brooks	Daveta & Dick Brader
8	Lesa & Steve Cropley	Melissa Davis
15	Karen & Roger Doerr	Andrew Barrows
22	Stephanie Bliss	Vonda Essex
29	Linda & Richard Johnson	Kim & Gaylon Hermann

Ushers for January: (Team 5) Captain – Ken Stein, Dale Behrens, Matt Fong, Ted Schroeder, Julie Thomsen



FLOWER & RADIO MEMORIALS
There are openings throughout the year for both flower and radio memorials. Please contact Melissa in the office or Mary Olsen (402-462-2811 molsen@charter.net) Donations are greatly appreciated.



The Things We Never Read
An Exploration of Some Non-lectionary Texts
Led by Greg Allen-Pickett, Dan Deffenbaugh, & Doodle Harris
9:15 AM - Lydia Room
January 8, 15, & 22

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Presents

International performer, educator and church musician

Jens Korndörfer

3 p.m., Sunday, January 15, 2023

First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln, Hastings, Nebraska



FREE pipe organ concert part of 150th year celebration
First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

Removal of the Greens

Sunday
January 8
11:30am

The joy of Christmas continues on Sunday, January 8 with removal of the greens. Please join in the fellowship and important time and effort with your church family.

We will begin immediately after the 10:30am service.



Scotland

June 15 – 24, 2023

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The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett
Tour Host



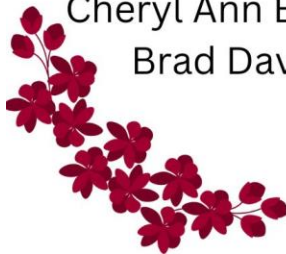
The Church Office will be Closed
on December 26, 27 and 28th for
the Christmas holiday and on January 2
for the New Years holiday

Prayers for

In loving memory of

Shirley Maul
 Barry Thomson
 Christian Fruehling
 Stephen Gass
 Bev Stein
 Greg Howard
 Family of Dora Horsley
 Irina-Belikova-Erickson
 Rich Portwood
 Shirley Gass
 Family of Sharon Harvey
 Tarah Davis & family
 Cheryl Ann Elfond
 Brad Davis
 Carl Utley
 Reta & Lowell Johnson
 Family of Ken Fike
 BJ Pumroy & family
 Elaine Schumacher
 Melba Trehern
 Family of Michael Hahne
 Dave Schawang
 Jenni Bauer
 Sally Smith
 Roberta Lloyd & family
 James Freetly & Laura Ferdinand
 Family of Phyllis Waltemath
 Katie Reynolds & family

Dora Horsley, who passed
 away on 10/27/22
 Phyllis Waltemath, who passed
 away on 10/31/22
 Ken Fike, who passed
 away on 11/5/22
 Sharon Harvey, who passed
 away on 12/7/22
 Michael Hahne, who passed
 away on 12/20/22



Sunday 12/25	10:30am	Christmas Morning service and brunch	Fellowship Hall
Monday 12/26		Church Offices Closed	
Tuesday 12/27		Church Offices Closed	
Wednesday 12/28		Church Offices Closed	
Sunday 1/1	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings
Sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873

Head of Church: Jesus Christ Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett Organist and Music Director: Linda Vollweiler Chancel Choir Director: Brett Epperson Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock	Ministers: Members of the Church Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann Director of Children & Family Ministries: Rose Koeppe Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey
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